

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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-----062160 201032Z /10

P 200825Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO /SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1644
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 4618

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, MLAT
SUBJECT: NAM FOREIGN MINISTER MEETING: RESERVATIONS ON
PUERTO RICAN ITEM

REF: STATE 206009

1. DCM CALLED AUGUST 17 ON MFA "DESK OFFICER" FOR NAM AFFAIRS MOOSA AL-MOOSA (WHO WAS MEMBER OF GOK DELEGATION AT BELGRADE.) DCM NOTED THAT OUR INFORMATION IS THAT GOK HAS NOT RESERVED ITS POSITION ON PUERTO RICO LANGUAGE ADOPTED AT BELGRADE, WHILE ALL OTHER GULF STATES HAD DONE SO.

2. AL-MOOSA WAS SURPRISED. HE SAID HE HAD NOT EVEN SEEN PUERTO RICO LANGUAGE AND SURMISED IT HAD BEEN ADOPTED FOLLOWING GOK DELEGATION'S EARLY DEPARTURE FROM CONFERENCE. HE SAID KUWAIT'S POSITION, THAT PUERTO RICO WAS NOT AN ISSUE THAT SHOULD BE DISCUSSED IN INTERNATIONAL FORA, IS WELL KNOWN, AND HE RECALLED THE RESERVATION FILED ON THE SUBJECT BY GOK FOLLOWING THE COLUMBO MEETING. HE NOTED THAT FINAL CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS HAD JUST THAT MORNING ARRIVED ON HIS DESK.

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3. DCM EXPLAINED THAT WE WERE NOW FORMALLY ASKING THAT KUWAIT TAKE PROMPT STEPS TO RESERVE ITS POSITION ON THE BELGRADE PR LANGUAGE IN VIEW OF GOK'S KNOWN POSITION, ITS FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH USG, AND THE FACT THAT ALL OTHER GULF STATES HAVE TAKEN RESERVATIONS.

4. AL-MOOSA LACKED AUTHORITY TO PROMISE THAT KUWAIT

WOULD MEET OUR REQUEST, BUT SAID HE WOULD PROMPTLY CONTACT AMBASSADOR BISHARA (IN NEW YORK) AND WOULD INFORM US OF THE RESULT. AL-MOOSA LEFT IMPRESSION THAT OF COURSE KUWAIT WOULD RESERVE ITS POSITION, ALTHOUGH HE NEEDED TIME TO READ THE CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS IN ORDER TO KNOW WHAT IT WAS GOK WAS TAKING EXCEPTION TO. DCM READ HIM THE PR LANGUAGE FROM REFTEL (ITEMS 125 AND 126 OF BELGRADE COMMUNIQUE.)

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY WILL FOLLOW UP WITH AL-MOOSA. SUGGEST USUN MENTION SUBJECT TO AMBASSADOR BISHARA WHO APPARENTLY HAS AUTHORITY TO TAKE DESIRED ACTION. NEITHER THIS EMBASSY NOR AL-MOOSA KNOWS HOW LONG THE PERIOD IS IN WHICH RESERVATIONS MAY BE REGISTERED.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: AFTER FOREGOING TYPED, AL-MOOSA TELEPHONED DCM AND INQUIRED EXACTLY WHICH ITEMS OF BELGRADE COMMUNIQUE USG WISHES KUWAIT TO TAKE RESERVATIONS ON. DCM TOLD HIM ITEMS NUMBERED 125 AND 126. AL-MOOSA IMQUIRED RE ITEM 128, MENTIONING MILITARY BASES, WHICH INSTRUCTIONS REFTEL DID NOT COVER. IF DEPT WISHES GOK TO RESERVE ITS POSITION ON ITEM 128, PLEASE SUPPLY INSTRUCTIONS AND TALKING POINTS ASAP.
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